

## Message Text

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42

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 AID-20 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIEP-02

STR-08 FEA-02 INT-08 SCI-06 AGR-20 NEA-11 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 COME-00

AF-10 OPIC-12 DRC-01 LAB-06 /211 W

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R 081000Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 440

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: INFORMAL US-THAI ECONOMIC DISCUSSIONS

REF: A. BANGKOK 1423

B) BANGKOK 2070

1. PROPOSED MEETING OF EMBASSY OFFICERS WITH DR. SNOH, UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR TRADE EXPANSION, WAS HELD JANUARY 29 (REFTEL A). ALSO PRESENT ON THAI SIDE WAS ASA SARASIN FROM MOFA WHO HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH HEAD-ING A NEW "POLICY AND PLANNING GROUP" IN THAIT MINISTRY. MEMCON WAS SENT EA/TB JANUARY 31. SNOH CANVASSED WIDE RANGE OF US-THAI TRADE RELATIONS, MOST OF WHICH HAD BEEN TOUCHED UPON IN PREVIOUS CONVERSATIONS WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS.

2. SPECIFIC POINTS RAISED WERE REQUEST FOR US ASSISTANCE TO LOCATE SUPPLIES OF FERTILIZERS AND OF SCRAP IRON, A LARGER SUGAR QUOTA FOR THAILAND, A SYMPATHETIC ATTITUDE BY THE US TOWARD THAILAND AS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY DURING THE FORTHCOMING TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS IN MAY, CONTNUIED  
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CONCERN OVER FUTURE PL 480 RICE EXPORT POLICY, AND A

DESIRE FOR ADDITIONAL MEETINGS IN THE FUTURE. MOST OF THE ABOVE POINTS WERE ALSO RAISED BY PM SANYA DURING COURTESY CALL OF ASSISTANT SEC. INGERSOLL, AS REPORTED IN REFTEL B.

3. EMBASSY HAS BEEN ATTEMPTING TO ASSIST ON SCRAP IRON, AS REPORTED IN BANGKOK 1950. TELEGRAM 1658 AND PREVIOUS REPORTED EMBASSY EFFORTS TO HELP LOCATE SUPPLIES OF FERTILIZER FOR PURCHASE BY THAILAND. REASONS FOR EMBASSY SUPPORT FOR A LARGER SUGAR QUOTA FOR THAILAND BEING REPORTED IN SEPARATE MESSAGE.

4. ON THE PENDING TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS, ECON/CML. COUNSELOR MERELY ALLUDED TO THE MULTI-NATIONAL FIBER AGREEMENT RECENTLY CONCLUDED IN GENEVA AND TO THE MORE FAVORABLE HISTORICAL RECORD THAT THAILAND WOULD HAVE IN 1974 IN COMPARISON WITH THE SITUATION PRIOR TO THE NEGOTIATIONS IN 1972.

5. ON FUTURE PL 480 POLICY, ECON/CML COUNSELOR REPLIED TO DR. SNOH THAT NO PL 480 RICE SALES WERE PLANNED TO INDONESIA DURING 1974, THE COUNTRY OF MAJOR CONCERN TO THAILAND, AND ALSO THAT WORLD MARKET PRICE FOR US RICE NOW VERY FAVORABLE.

6. POSITIVE ANSWER WAS GIVEN TO REQUEST FOR SIMILAR MEETINGS IN FUTURE; CAVEAT WAS ENTERED THAT THEY BE KEPT INFORMAL AND EXPLANATORY, SUBJECT ALWAYS TO RECEIPT OF OTHER INSTRUCTIONS FROM WASHINGTON.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: DEVELOPMENTS AND ACTIONS DESCRIBED ABOVE FURTHER UNDERLINE IMPORTANCE OF GUIDANCE REQUESTED IN REFTEL A.  
KINTNER

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## Message Attributes

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